

2018 California Legislative Update: Climate Change

For full context and bill language, please refer to leginfo.legislature.ca.gov.

AB 1668 | Water Management Planning

- » Requires the State Water Resources Control Board, in coordination with the Department of Water Resources (DWR), to adopt long-term standards for the efficient use of water, as provided, and performance measures for commercial, industrial, and institutional water use on or before June 30, 2022.
- » Establishes 55 gallons per capita daily as the standard for indoor residential water use until January 1, 2025.
- » Requires DWR to propose recommendations and guidance relating to the development and implementation of countywide drought and water shortage contingency plans to address the planning needs of small water suppliers and rural communities.

AB 1956 | Fire prevention activities: local assistance grant program

- » Requires the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) to establish a local assistance grant program using funds collected from a specified fire prevention fee for purposes of fire prevention activities designed to benefit habitable structures within state responsibility areas.
- » Programs may include technical assistance, workforce recruitment and training, and equipment purchases.

AB 2377 | Agriculture: Cannella Environmental Farming Act of 1995: technical assistance grant program

- » Requires the Department of Food and Agriculture to establish a technical assistance grant program to provide funds to technical assistance providers, as defined, to provide assistance to Healthy Soils Program, alternative manure management practices programs, and State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program applicants.
- » Prioritizes technical assistance to farmers and ranchers, and supports annual information sharing among technical assistance providers, the department, and other relevant stakeholders.

AB 2551 | Forestry and fire prevention: joint prescribed burning operations: watersheds

- » Authorizes the director of CAL FIRE to enter into agreements with small nonindustrial landowners to which the landowners will undertake forest resource improvement work in return for an agreement by the department to share the cost of carrying out that work.
- » Authorizes the director to enter into an agreement with the owner of any property that is within any wildland, or any nonprofit organization to conduct joint prescribed burning operations.

AB 3012 | State Coastal Conservancy: grants: climate change projects

- » Requires the State Coastal Conservancy to prioritize climate change projects that maximize public benefits, including but not limited to, reducing emissions of greenhouse gases, reducing hazards to harbors and ports, preserving and enhancing coastal wetlands and natural lands, conserving biodiversity, and providing recreational opportunities, or reduce flood risk and enhance fish and wildlife habitat.

SB 30 | Insurance: climate change

- » Requires the Insurance Commissioner to convene a working group to identify, assess, and recommend risk transfer market mechanisms that promote investment in natural infrastructure to reduce the risks of climate change related to catastrophic events, create incentives for investment in natural infrastructure to reduce risks to communities, and provide mitigation incentives for private investment in natural lands to lessen exposure and reduce climate risks to public safety, property, utilities, and infrastructure.

SB 100 | California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program: emissions of greenhouse gases

- » Establishes a target of eligible renewable energy resources and zero-carbon resources to supply 100% of retail sales of electricity to California end-use customers and 100% of electricity procured to serve all state agencies by December 31, 2045.
- » Requires the Public Utilities Commission and the Energy Commission to take steps to ensure that a transition to a zero-carbon electric system for California does not cause or contribute to greenhouse gas emissions increases elsewhere in the western grid.

SB 901 | Wildfires

- » Establishes \$25 million of funds from the Budget Act of 2018 to support activities directly related to regional response and readiness. Provides that these activities include predeployment of Office of Emergency Services fire and rescue and local government resources that are part of the California Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System or additional resources upon the authority and approval of the Office of Emergency Services to meet the requirements for state resources called up for predisaster and disaster response.

SB 961 | Enhanced infrastructure financing districts

- » Authorizes a city or county to adopt a resolution for an enhanced infrastructure financing district if the area to be financed is within one-half mile of a major transit stop and certain conditions relating to housing and the infrastructure financing plan are or will be met.
- » Requires at least 10 percent of the total funds received to be used for investments in the capital costs of parks, urban forestry, or permanent greening improvements along boulevards, streets, or other public areas within a district, or active transportation capital projects.

SB 964 | Public Employees' Retirement Fund and Teachers' Retirement Fund: investments: climate-related financial risk

- » Requires climate-related financial risk to be analyzed to the extent the board of pension or retirement system identify the risk as a material risk to the Public Employees' Retirement Fund or the Teachers' Retirement Fund.
- » Requires each board to publicly report on the climate-related financial risk of its public market portfolio, including alignment of the Public Employees' Retirement Fund and Teachers' Retirement Fund with a specified climate agreement and California climate policy goals and the exposure of the fund to long-term risks.

SB 1035 | General Plans

- » Requires the safety element of city or county general plans to be reviewed and revised as necessary to address climate adaptation and resiliency strategies.
- » Requires, after these revisions, the planning agency to review and, if necessary, revise the safety element upon each revision of the housing element or local hazard mitigation plan, not less than every 8 years, to identify new information relating to flood and fire hazards and climate adaptation and resiliency strategies.

SB 1072 | Regional Climate Collaborative Program: technical assistance

- » Establishes a regional climate collaborative program, to be administered by the Strategic Growth Council, to assist under-resourced communities in a region to access statewide public and other grant moneys for climate change mitigation and adaptation projects by establishing collaboratives.